(b) if so, by what time it is likely to be announced; and

(c) whether delays in securing mining licenses and land have undermined India's efforts to win more investment leaving the South Asian Nation short of the raw materials needed for an economy forecast that India could easily provide?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) A High Level Committee (HLC) under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission was constituted to review the National Mineral Policy and recommend possible amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the sector. The Committee has submitted its report to the Central Government which is under consideration. Investment Commission in its report has projected an investment of US $ 10-15 billion in mining and quarrying sector.

(c) This Ministry has not received any information about effect of the procedural delay in grant of mineral concessions on the economic growth of the country due to short fall in supply of any major minerals.

Grant of mining lease

468. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the recommendations of the Hoda Committee on the National Mineral Policy to curb the powers of States on grant of mining lease rights by transferring such rights to the Centre in case of delays in the process by the State;

(b) whether such a move will deprive the jurisdiction of the constituent States of the right to their mining resources solely on the grounds of delay in disposal of the applications; and

(c) whether many States including Karnataka have sought for a change in the present system of fixed royalty rates on an *ad-valorem* duty to boost the State revenues and if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) The High Level Committee has given a recommendation that the Mines and Minerals

(Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR) Act, be amended to provide that where the State Government has not passed an order within the prescribed time frame the Central Govemment may pass an appropriate order, after giving an opportunity to the State Government of being heard. State Governments, as the owners of the minerals grant mineral concessions and there is no deprivation of this power.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the MMDR Act, 1957, the Central Government shall enhance the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral only once in a period of three years. Since the last revision of rates was done on 14/10/2004, next revision of rates would be possible after 13/10/2007.

Quantum of bauxite in Jharkhand

† 469. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of bauxite assessed in Jharkhand location-wise;

(b) the consumption of bauxite in the State and the quantum of bauxite being demanded to send out of the State; and

(c) the companies which have been alowed for mining of bauxite in the State?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) As informed by Indian Bureau of Mines, the total resources of bauxite in Jharkhand State as on 1.4.2005 (provisional) are placed at 1,19,822 thousand tonnes. The district wise resources of bauxite in Jharkhand State as on 1.4.2005 (provisional) are as under:

(Thousand tonnes)

District	Reserves	Remaining Resources	Total Resources
Dumka	0	12,830	12,830
Gumla	20,217	60,626	80,843
Lataehar	2,642	2,919	5,561
Lohardaga	10,337	5,427	15,764
Palamau	0	4,824	4,824
TOTAL:	33,196	86,626	1,19,822

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.